

**THE GENTLE CULTURED
GERMAN "THE ROAD
HOG OF EUROPE"**

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The gentle cultured German "The road hog of Europe" by J. B. Booth

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"THE ROAD HOG OF EUROPE"

BY

J. B. BOOTH



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CHAPTER I

KRUPP KULTUR

"Might gives the right to occupy or to conquer. Might is at once the supreme right, and the dispute as to what is right is decided by the arbitrament of war. War gives a biologically just decision, since its decisions rest on the very nature of things."—VON BERNHARDI.

THE wise man is not content with conquering his opponent; he seeks to understand the frame of mind, the cast of thought which have driven his opponent to commit what, in his opinion, is an outrageous offence. On the declaration of war, man after man, in the street, in the club, in the home, asked in amazement: "What on earth is Germany fighting for?"—gave up all attempt at an explanation, and dismissed the problem with a contemptuous remark about the Kaiser's sanity.

There is no excuse for this attitude.

Germany is at war with a perfectly definite object, and the sooner the man in the street realises that object the sooner he will fit himself for the struggle.

To do the Germans justice, they have never attempted to conceal their aims or their opinions. With a self-revelation which is wholly admirable

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they have issued book after book, pamphlet after pamphlet, setting forth the Germanic ideal in all its nakedness; and they are not to be blamed if the world, and in particular England, shrugged its shoulders, and smilingly persisted in treating the Gospel of Teutonic World Dominion as a fairy tale told to one another by spectacled professors in their dotage.

In England, which above all other nations should be interested in the aspirations of a rival power to world-wide empire, the ignorance of Germany and of Germanic ideals has been stupendous; the roar of Armageddon itself was necessary to waken her to the realities, and arouse her to the fact that it was no nation of dreamers, playing with clockwork soldiers, which confronted her, but a bitter enemy, prepared by years of toil and sacrifice for one end, fired by ideals the negation of all she herself held holy, which advanced to meet her, eager to take its place at last at the head of the nations.

A few short months ago the names of Von Bernhardi, of Treitschke, even of the misunderstood Nietzsche himself, were unknown to the man in the street; the menace was unheeded save by a mere handful, civilly referred to as scaremongers. And after the declaration of war it needed an Emperor's allusion to "Britain's contemptible little army" to make the situation utterly clear.